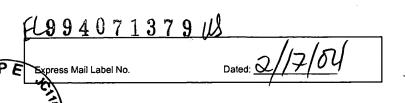
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Dated: 2/17/04

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Docket No.: 09450/000K678-US0

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Mitsuru AKAIKE

Application No.: 09/852,225

Art Unit: 3632

Filed: May 9, 2001

Examiner: Naschica S. MORRISON

For: STOPPER DEVICE AND TELESCOPIC UNIT

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated November 17, 2003, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper; and

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

